IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraphs [001], [002], and [032], with the following paragraphs:

[001] Related U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/035,747, filed on even date herewith in the name of Guy L. Steele Jr. and entitled "Floating Point System That Represents Status Flag Information Floating Point Operand," assigned to the assignee of the present application, is hereby incorporated by reference.

[002] Related U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/035,586, filed on even date herewith in the name of Guy L. Steele Jr. and entitled "Comparator Unit For Comparing Values Of Floating point Operands," assigned to the assignee of the present publication, is hereby incorporated by reference.

[032] U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/035,747, filed on even date herewith in the name of Guy L. Steele Jr. and entitled "Floating Point System That Represents Point Status Flag Information With A Floating Point Operand," describes a floating point unit in which floating point status information is encoded in the representations of the results generated thereby. By encoding the floating point status information relating to a floating point operation in the result that is generated for the operation, the implicit serialization required by maintaining the floating point status information separate and apart therefrom can be obviated. The floating point unit includes a plurality of functional

units, including an adder unit, a multiplier unit, a divider unit, a square root unit, a maximum/minimum unit, a comparator unit and a tester unit, all of which operate under control of functional unit control signals provided by a control unit. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/035,586, filed on even date herewith in the name of Guy L. Steele, Jr. and entitled "Comparator Unit For Comparing Values Of Floating point Operands," describes a partial order comparator unit for use in connection with the floating point unit described in the aforementioned application that conforms to the requirements of IEEE Std. 754 that: